

studioA



**Annual
Report
2021/22**



Skye Saxon's work in *From impulse to action*, Bundanon, January 2022. Photo by Zan Wimberley.

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Cover Images: Thom Roberts and Mathew Calandra by Cybele Malinowski.

Who We Are

Studio A is a unique social enterprise based in Sydney, specifically designed to provide professional opportunities for artists with intellectual disability. As one of Australia's leading supported studios, we champion and value our artists' creative talent and individual expertise.

By offering comprehensive support systems and resources, we enable artists with intellectual disability to pursue their personal career aspirations and earn income as practising art professionals. The studio facilitates the creation of exceptional art across various disciplines, each piece reflecting the artist's unique style and inspirations.

The impact of Studio A extends beyond artistry, positively influencing the well-being of our members and in the wider community cultivating a more inclusive cultural landscape. Our artists experience increased self-esteem, improved mental health, and a sense of belonging within a supportive community.

Professionally, Studio A enables artists to network, earn meaningful income, and make a significant impact in the contemporary art scene. We actively promote diversity and inclusion by providing our artists opportunities to be widely seen and recognised, combating the stigma surrounding disability not just in the arts sector, but in the wider community.

Studio A's creative output appeals to diverse markets, including art, design, craft, and corporate sectors. The studio has established successful and enduring partnerships and collaborations, providing creative services to leading Australian corporations, institutions, and organisations. These partnerships foster the exchange of ideas with fellow professionals and contribute to innovative projects. Additionally, we host weekly workshops with invited contemporary artists, further enriching the artistic environment.

In essence, Studio A empowers artists with intellectual disability to thrive creatively, professionally, and personally. We break down barriers, promote inclusivity, and foster a vibrant and diverse artistic community.

Studio A Staff

Gabrielle Mordy	CEO/Artistic Director
Emma Johnston	Principal Artist
Lise Anderson	Collection and Sales Coordinator
Florence Araniego	Artist Facilitator
Tim Bell	Archivist and Gallery Assistant
Clare Choi	Artist Facilitator
Katrina Dunn-Jones	Projects and Administrations Coordinator
Karla Hansen	Marketing and Communications Manager
Yesmin Hassarati	Artist Facilitator
Christopher Haysom	Digital Solutions Manager
Pernille Jack	Operations Manager
Kathie Najar	Artist Facilitator
Cassilda Parkinson	Artist Facilitator

Guest Artists

Gabrielle Bates	Laura Jones	Shan Turner-Carroll
Braydon Gifford	Paula do Prado	Simon Wheeldon

Studio A Artists

Victoria Atkinson	Lauren Kerjan	Skye Saxon
Katrina Brennan	Daniel Kim	Damian Showyin
Mathew Calandra	Jaycee Kim	Phillip Sidney
Emily Crockford	Adam Mandarano	Greg Sindel
Peter Dudding	Catherine McGuinness	Lisa Tindall
Guy Fredericks	Meagan Pelham	
Annette Galstaun	Thom Roberts	



Portraits of Studio A artists, illustrated by Greg Sindel.

A Message From The CEO

On a Saturday night in early January 2022 I stood together with a large collective of people in a darkened room wearing surgical masks (we were emerging from Covid lockdowns). This may not sound like a magical and connecting experience and yet it was....we were brought together by Studio A artworks. In the centre of the room glowed a series of putt putt golf inspired sculptures. Fairy floss coloured with brightly patterned facades, ethereal angelic forms seemed to hover above the putting bases. The forms were both mesmerising and a little unnerving. This was the creative vision of Studio A artist Annette Galstaun. A lover of putt putt golf, Annette is a woman deeply connected to the spirit realm. We were there to celebrate the opening of her exhibition *Magical Putt Putt* at Cement Fondu gallery in Paddington, Sydney.

Annette's sculptures were accompanied by a series of portraits created by fellow Studio A artists. These portraits were inspired by the theme 'sacred'. In a strange and organic synchronicity each artist depicted a parent who had passed away and a beautiful and unexpected synergy emerged between Annette's angels and the portraits. Whilst Annette's putt putt golf styled artwork was there to be literally played with it was not entirely playful work. It was also deeply thoughtful. Art about the human condition, about love, loss, death, spirituality and connection.

The *Magical Putt Putt* show encompasses for me an essence of what Studio A is about. Our artists have a compelling vision that they share through their visual artwork. This work provides a glimpse into a unique way of experiencing the world. Yet Studio A artwork also speaks about the universal experience. It reflects both difference and universality and it brings people with different life experiences together to play, talk and share. This theme and impact runs throughout Studio A's work.

In FY22 Studio A's achievements are diverse and many and nothing brings me more energy than seeing the pride on the face of individual artists as their work is recognised. Yet the backbone of our achievements and impact involves an incredible amount of administrative work. And this cannot be overlooked. A key success at Studio A this year has been the recruitment of our Operations Manager, Pernille Jack. This position has been enabled through the award of a multi year grant from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation (VFFF). We are immensely grateful for the VFFF's recognition of the importance of administrative work and its foundational importance. We are thrilled to welcome on board Pernille.

Studio A's artists, their talent and dedication is at the forefront of everything we do - as it should be. Yet supporting this success and working tirelessly in the background are our staff and volunteers who play a key role in all we achieve. I would like to pay a particular acknowledgement to my Co-founder and Studio A's Principal Artist Emma Johnston. Emma has a unique capacity to foster the creative talent of others and she shares this generously.

Our Board of Directors consists of skilled and busy professionals who volunteer their time to ensure Studio A remains focused on our strategic objectives with best practice governance.

I would like to personally thank each Director for their dedication and particularly thank our hand working and ever inspiring Chair Shane Simpson AM.

What you read in the pages of this outstanding Annual Report is the outcome of an entire community working together. Studio A's success is created by our donors, supporters, fans, families and a national community that embraces and celebrates diverse voices. I hope this report brings you a sense of pride and hope in what an effective community can foster.

Gabrielle Mordy
CEO / Artistic Director Studio A



Studio A artists and staff at The Archibald Prize artist lunch, The Art Gallery of New South Wales, May 2022.
Photo by Studio A.





A Message From The Chair

As you read this Annual Report you will be struck by the extraordinary things that people with intellectual disabilities can achieve when given the opportunity to thrive. Our artists are now exhibited in state and regional galleries, commissioned by companies and by public galleries and museums, purchased by collectors and institutions, licensed by both business and government, deliver extraordinary workshops for both corporations and governments, and co-present at important national and international conferences.

This is a place of success. It is also a place of remarkable harmony and shared vision. Much of that is due to the leadership of Gabrielle Mordy and Emma Johnson but at the heart of the organisation, are the artists themselves together with the remarkable facilitators and guest artists who work with them and share generously their talent, advice and, not a little of their soul.

None of this could happen without government and private support. The NDIS has provided our artists with the freedom to develop their skills and make money from them: both things that change their lives in profound ways. Create NSW and the Australia Council have provided important funding support and so too have private foundations. [I would particularly like to single out the extraordinary gift by the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation that has provided three-

year funding for an administrative position. Few donors want to support something as hidden as administration but in a small organisation such as ours, such a gift is transformative.] And then of course all the other philanthropists – big and small - who support the Studio. Thank you all.

Finally, my thanks to the directors on the Studio A board for their generous contribution to the organisation. Their role is unseen and unsung but without the contribution that each makes to the work of the Studio, we would not enjoy the success that this Report demonstrates.

Shane Simpson AM
Chair of Studio A



Our Impact

Studio A remains dedicated to its mission of supporting and empowering artists with intellectual disability, and we are delighted to present our third annual impact statement. Our commitment to assessing the quantifiable and qualitative effects of our activities has led us to employ a thorough Impact Assessment Methodology since 2020. This methodology enables us to comprehensively measure the transformative impact of our initiatives on our artists, the organisation, and the wider community.

We are pleased to report significant achievements and a steadfast sense of optimism for the future. The outcomes outlined in this third impact statement reflect the collective efforts of our dedicated community, including the unwavering support of our generous donors and volunteers. With great pride we share with you the remarkable accomplishments and far-reaching influence Studio A and our artists have achieved during the FY21/22 period.

Catherine McGuiness at Flow & Glow Artist Market, Wynyard Lane, May 2022. Photo by Ashley Marr.

1 million

people saw Studio A artwork.

5

finalists in the Archibald and Sulman Prizes.



"I really love my (Archibald) portrait of Anna. She is amazing to me and part of my future. I will always be an artist." - Meagan Pelham

100%

of artists earned income working as professional artists.

"If someone bought your artworks it's because they love your artworks. You get paid from the studio. Your artwork is so beautiful. You get more moneys and stuff."
- Catherine McGuiness



studio A



Impact Statement 2021/22



The Art Gallery of NSW acquired work by Mathew Calandra for their permanent collection.

Studio A artworks featured in **29 exhibitions** nationally and internationally.

47 partnerships with leading arts institutions, corporations and design companies.

"Calandra creates other worlds. For not only are his drawings fantastical but his tight linework and careful washes of colour are themselves transformative."

- Art Gallery of NSW curator Anne Ryan



93% increase in the number of commissions secured.

25 unique design products created.

"Studio A has become a leading centre for artists with intellectual disability – and with four works up for the (Archibald) portrait prize, they're getting the recognition they deserve"

- Kelly Burke, The Guardian



110K+ visits to studioa.org.au.

30% increase in mailing list subscribers.

19 media articles featuring Studio A artists.

26% increase in social media followers.

Our Supporters

At Studio A, we recognise that our success is made possible by the incredible support we receive from our valued donors, funders, and dedicated volunteers. We humbly acknowledge that without their generous contributions, our endeavours would not be possible.

Through their generosity, our artists are provided with vital resources. Accessible studio space, high-quality art materials, logistical and skilled support, along with invaluable mentorships all come together to empower our artists to pursue their creative ambitions. Additionally, these contributions open doors to residencies, new commissions, and exciting challenges, enabling our artists to realise their artistic dreams. Fostering a more inclusive and equitable artistic landscape.

As we present our Annual Report for FY21/22, we gratefully acknowledge that the achievements showcased within its pages are not solely ours but a testament to the collaborative spirit of our supporters. With gratitude, we extend our heartfelt thanks to all those who have played a role in our journey. Your steadfast support has made a profound impact on the lives of our artists, and we are truly grateful for your unwavering dedication.

Studio A is proudly supported by;



Catherine McGuiness, *Seagull in Love*, 2022, watercolour pencil and posca on paper.

Volunteers and Interns

Amelia Bowe	Kathie Najar	Tessa Chong
April Phillips	Lara Leonard	Tsz Kin (William) Liu
Chloe Watfern	Lesley Richman	Will Kollmorgen
Cybele Malinowski	Lucas Conway	Yen Hoang
Dan Clarke	Max Serrano	Zoe Borhani
Hannah Meldrum	Mon Moynihan	
Isabella Nehme	Oly Sherman	
Jayne Madden	Raghav Raj	
Janette Anderson	Ronan Soussa	
Janene Knight	Scott Heldorf	
Julie Wang	Selina Miles	
Justin Malinowski	Shay Bell	

Special thanks to Sam Kalis for his copywriting support.

Donors

Liberty Specialty Markets	Claudia Reppin	Jonathan & Mary Flaws
James Phillips in honour of the late Claire Phillips	Declan Keenan	The Patoulios Family
The Luca and Anita Belgiorno-Nettis Foundation	Dee Owens	Matt Pigram
Turner Freeman Lawyers	Douglas Spencer OAM	Michael Bogle
Daryl Dixon	Gabrielle Mordy	Mira Joksovic
Simpson-Michel Foundation	Georgie Kostoglou	Nea Cahill
Alise Cornia	Gillian Corban	Peet Kerjan
Amanda Whiteley	Jackie Tin	Rick Carter
Angela Crosland	Jacqueline Calandra	Roger Sebel
Angelina Riley	Jan Cappelen	Sam Condon, Douglas Street Pty Ltd
Annie Russell	Jane Willmott	Sandra Ferman
Ben Mills	Jayne Madden	Shawn Ashkanasy
Blak Douglas	Jenny Gould	Steve Badgery & James Hayes
Brett Atkinson	John McCabe	Tim Gerrard
Cara MacLeod	Katy Tyrrell	Vanessa Scarf
Carrie Kibbler	Laura Lucas	Wadih Hanna
Cassandra Walsh	Lin Stanton	
Cate Denning	Lindsay & Celeste Showyin	
Christopher Haysom	Dr Marie-Louise Ayres FAHA	
	Martyn Mordy	

Incognito Art Show co-founders Ed and David Liston with Greg Sindel at Studio A. Photo by Studio A.



"Dear Donors, on behalf of Studio A, allow me to thank you all for your help in donating to us and supporting our marvellous art. What I like about being an artist, is shaping my art and stories to great people."
 — Greg Sindel.

Exhibitions

Magical Putt Putt, Cement Fondu, January 2022. Photo by Jessica Maurer.



The Archibald Prize and the Sulman Prize 2022

The Art Gallery of New South Wales
14 May - 28 August 2022

In 2022, a record five Studio A artists were recognised as finalists in the Archibald and Sulman prizes. Emily Crockford and Thom Roberts secured second-time Archibald placements. Catherine McGuinness and Meagan Pelham exhibited as finalists for the first time. Also, Victoria Atkinson placed as a finalist in the Sulman Prize.



Emily Crockford captured her close friends and Studio A colleagues, CEO Gabrielle Mordy and Principal Artist Emma Johnston. Her acrylic painting, *The Patterns in the Mountains of Studio A, Best Friends Emma and Gabrielle*, acts as a warm statement of friendship, featuring intricate pattern work and vivid colours.

Catherine McGuinness painted artist Rosie Deacon in *Rosary and the Seagull* which encapsulates Deacon's colour-filled world. Sittings for the painting involved Deacon dressing up in various costumes and McGuinness capturing her essence through art.

“Studio A has become a leading centre for artists with intellectual disability – and with four works up for the portrait prize, they’re getting the recognition they deserve”

Kelly Burke, The Guardian



Thom Roberts' selected Shelly Simpson, CEO, designer and founder of Mud Australia, as his Archibald subject. Referring to Simpson as “Rachey”, *Rachey in the Mirror* was a smaller scale piece, with the portrait being painted on a ceramic surface sourced from the Mud studio.



Meagan Pelham's entry, *Romance is Love*, depicts an ethereal dreamscape with Romance Was Born co-founder and designer Anna Plunkett at its centre. After their extensive collaboration, the portrait reflects Pelham and Plunkett's shared inspirations - romance and beauty - in watercolour, gouache and acrylic paint.



Victoria Atkinson exhibited this year as a finalist in the Sulman Prize. *Angel Mum, Noel Humphrey* memorialised Atkinson's late mother. Painted on plywood, the work is installed with a surrounding glow of neon light, representative of Atkinson's mother's shining spirit.

Following on from the exhibition at the Art Gallery of NSW, the Archibald and Sulman Prize exhibitions toured regionally through Bunjil Place, the Blue Mountains, Grafton, Wagga Wagga, Lake Macquarie and Dubbo.

Magical Putt Putt

Cement Fondu, Paddington
15 January - 27 February 2022

For the first exhibition of 2022, Studio A partnered with Cement Fondu to create a newly commissioned installation. *Magical Putt Putt* represented a major evolution in Studio A's partnership with Cement Fondu as they handed over their entire main gallery space for the exhibition.

Select artists from Studio A's neurodiverse community produced large-scale works that transformed Cement Fondu into a spiritual and interactive mini-golf experience. Inspired by Annette Galstaun's passion for angels and putt putt, the exhibition invited visitors to play mini-golf on the artist-designed course. Each sculpture was painted with a celestial spirit or icon, and reflected Galstaun's connection to the spiritual world. A video of Galstaun performing as a guardian angel accompanied the activity, with responses triggered by mini-golf players.

Responding to the concept of reverence Meagan Pelham, Mathew Calandra and Victoria Atkinson chose to memorialise parents who have passed. Their portraits, painted on solid wood, were haloed with coloured light and glowed in the left hand alcove of the gallery.

Thom Roberts also created the animated work *Courthouse Cats* for the exhibition. Working with animator Braydon Gifford, Thom created a 360 degree sporting arena where police cops battled it out in front of courthouse cats, with table tennis matches being played out in front of the animation.

Opening night of *Magical Putt Putt* saw an operatic performance from Galstaun and her support worker Irene Cyane, who is an opera singer by trade. There was also live drawing from contributing artists Thom Roberts, Mathew Calandra and Victoria Atkinson.

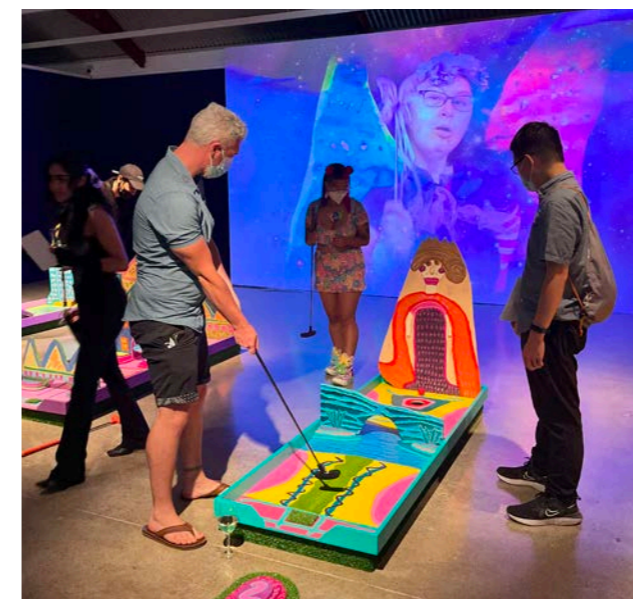


"The show highlights the importance of social engagement through collective experiences, themed around the connective forces of recreation and ritual. In Magical Putt Putt, the artists give us patrons the opportunity to challenge these thoughts and think broadly about the changing relationships between individuals and our communities."

Madeline Kenzie, RUSSH Magazine



Installation view, *Magical Putt Putt*, Cement Fondu, January 2022. Photo by Jessica Maurer.



Images: *Magical Putt Putt* opening night. Photos by Studio A.



From impulse to action

Bundanon
29 January - 12 June 2022

To celebrate the opening of the newly expanded Bundanon homestead, the Bundanon Art Museum hosted its first exhibition, *From impulse to action*. Located in the Southern Highlands region of New South Wales, Bundanon was once the home of influential Australian artist Arthur Boyd, and in late 2021 underwent renovations to include an exhibition space and learning centre.

Skye Saxon was selected as one of twelve contemporary artists to create new and diverse commissions which mirror and expand on the energy and practice of Boyd's experimental drawings. Saxon's passion for storytelling and performance was channelled through the series of celestial drawings she contributed to the exhibition. Her collection, *Cosmic mirror doors through space and time*, layered lines and shapes to depict portals to the galaxy. Mixing materials such as markers, pencils and ink, each of Saxon's drawings create an entrancing kaleidoscope of bright, metallic colours.

Skye blended a number of inspirations and narratives, and many of her works featured scribble-like designs. Her "scribble gum writing" evokes the patterns that appear on Australian gum trees and expresses the deep, magical connection between Saxon's imagination and the natural environment.



Skye Saxon's work in *From impulse to action*, Bundanon, January 2022. Photo by Zan Wimberley.

Trophy Dreams

University of NSW, Kensington
30 May - 30 August 2022

Trophy Dreams was an exhibition created in partnership with UNSW Library and UNSW Art Collection, curated by Elena Taylor. Comprised of existing and newly commissioned works from nine Studio A artists, the exhibition addressed serious issues ranging from our relationship with the spirit world to the accessibility of tertiary education through shimmering and playful aesthetics.

Emily Crockford, Victoria Atkinson and Jaycee Kim reimagined UNSW graduation attire as wearable artworks, communicating their subjective perceptions of university. Crockford expressed pride for her brother's graduation, Atkinson celebrated her academic journey and the school she attended and Kim created a graduation outfit for his own universe's educational institution, where he is a graduate and the principal. The commissioned interactive pieces brought awareness to the inaccessibility of conventional education for artists with intellectual disability.

The exhibition also included Meagan Pelham's watercolour parrots, Emily Crockford's panoramic Australian wildlife painting, comic illustrations by Greg Sindel, and artworks from Catherine McGuinness, Victoria Atkinson and Damian Showyin. Mathew Calandra's etchings, created during his UNSW Art and Design residency, were also featured alongside pieces from Annette Galstaun's *Magical Putt-Putt* installation, originally shown at Cement Fondu earlier in the year.

"Amongst this dance of delicious aesthetics serious subjects are addressed. Trophy Dreams addresses issues ranging from our relationship with the spirit world to the accessibility of tertiary education."

Gabrielle Mordy, CEO / Artistic Director Studio A



Trophy Dreams opening night. Photo by Adrian Shek.

Season One

Cromwell Place, London
16 March - 27 March 2022

Studio A artist Thom Roberts and UK-based artist Cherelle Sappleton joined forces for the Art et al. facilitated Peer/Peer program. The program aimed to foster rich, collaborative practices between two geographically disconnected artists while also championing neurodiverse contemporary art.

The pair corresponded over three months (2021-2022), primarily through video messages, and discussed their shared loves of photocopying, drawing, and abstract art. Throughout this period, Thom and Cherelle created a body of work that took inspiration from both their individual art practices. Digital images were manipulated and layered behind graphic illustrations and text to produce statement visual collages.

Thom and Cherelle's works were displayed at an Art et al. pop up exhibition at Arts Project in Melbourne before it was flown across the globe to be part of Season One at Cromwell Place in London. The exhibition championed the work of neurodiverse artists, specifically featuring the results of the Peer/Peer collaborations. Excitingly, this was the first international exhibition to feature a Studio A artist.



Cementa 22

Kandos, NSW
19 May - 22 May 2022

The Cementa festival featured over 40 artists for four days and four nights of contemporary art and culture spread across the town of Kandos. The artist-led initiative focused on presenting experimental and socially engaging artworks, talks and events in a regional environment.

Both Katrina Brennan and Meagan Pelham were featured with their *Kennel Crafters* installation, where they transformed Kandos Crafters store into a neon-hued art display inspired by the town's resident canines. Prior to the 2022 event, Brennan and Pelham travelled to Kandos for multiple artist residencies.

The transformed shop featured hot pink fluorescent signs and Meagan Pelham's poetry, enlarged and printed on colour-reflective surfaces. The store's mascot was "Chewy", a dog sculpture surrounded in neon light, which peered out the front window at locals and event-goers. Brennan and Pelham's Kandos Crafters takeover attracted many joyful visitors, including fellow creatives and countless puppy pals.



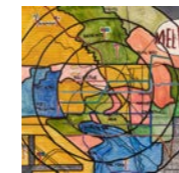
Top left: Season One opening night. Photo by James Gifford-Mead. Top right: Season One install image. Photo by Andy Keate. Bottom left: Meagan Pelham and Katrina Brennan at Cementa 22. Photo by Studio A.

More Exhibitions...



Inside the Tide
The Caylx, Royal Botanic Garden
3 December 2021 - 30 June 2022

Guy Fredericks collaborated with Erth Visual & Physical Inc. and the Royal Botanic Garden Sydney to create a horticultural and sculptural marine installation which included interactive sculptures and over 20,000 plants.



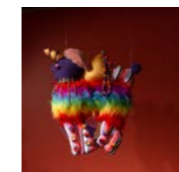
MENTAL
Science Gallery Melbourne
20 January - 18 June 2022

For the Science Gallery Melbourne's inaugural exhibition Thom Roberts created augmented reality work *Crowns, Trams & Milipedes*. Part exhibition, part experiment, MENTAL was a welcoming place to confront stereotypes around mental health.



Where I'd Rather Be
Curl Curl Creative Space
23 February - 5 March 2022

The northern beaches exhibition featured artwork of dreamed and idealised landscapes by Studio A's professional pathways awardee Matthew Elliot alongside work by a selection of Studio A artists.



Unicorn Butterfly
Cement Fondu, Paddington
15 January - 27 February 2022

Katrina Brennan and guest artist Paula do Prado presented a visual wonderland of colour, pattern and texture filled with Unicorn Dogs and Unicorn Butterflies within the studio's Magical Putt Putt exhibition.



The Salon des Refusés
S. H. Ervin Gallery, The Rocks
14 May - 24 July 2022

Emily Crockford's portrait of Federal Member for North Sydney, Trent Zimmerman was selected for S.H. Ervin Gallery's 'alternative' Archibald, a selection that has become a much anticipated feature of the Sydney art scene.

Commissions

Meagan Pelham working on *Sunset Forest*, LAVO, November 2021. Photo by Studio Air.



MEAGAN
THE PELHAM

Sunset Forest

LAVO, Sydney
November 2021

Two Studio A artists, Meagan Pelham and Phillip Sidney, collaborated to create a mural for LAVO's new offices in Sussex Street, Sydney. The artwork captured LAVO's and the artists' commitment to a more sustainable Australia.

Titled *Sunset Forest*, the 18 square metre mural mirrors the mission of LAVO, as Meagan and Phil painted a shared vision of the future between themselves and the LAVO team. Filled with bright colours and vibrant Australian flora and fauna, their design aimed to celebrate life, and LAVO's dedication to powering a cleaner, greener future.

One of Phil's main motivations was to provide the LAVO team with a sense of calm and joy in their day to day. *"The laid back kangaroo is lying down and taking a breather"* said Phil of the work. *"I hope my relaxing kangaroo helps the LAVO team to take a breather too."*

Meagan also expressed how her's and Phil's artwork fits with LAVO's mission.

"The wombats are wonderful, I love them, they are cuddly and are in love. The dreamy colours are beautiful, like the whole world. Art will save the world. I am so proud of the mural, it makes me cry with happiness."



Sunset Forest, LAVO, Sydney. Photo by William Liu.

Pillar boxes Ausgrid

March 2022

In 2021, Ausgrid handed over five electrical pillar boxes to Studio A to transform into dynamic artworks.

The project, co-funded by IFM investors through its community grants program, commissioned five artists to paint the green pillar boxes in the themes of the five UN Sustainable Development Goals that most align with Ausgrid: Gender Equality, Affordable and Clean Energy, Decent Work and Economic Growth, Sustainable Cities and Communities and Climate Action. Additionally, the program aimed to improve the look and feel of local communities through artwork, utilising a previously unused space for community artworks.

Five Studio A artists were selected in accordance with how they resonated with each theme, showcasing their commitment to each Sustainability goal. Thom Roberts, Greg Sindel, Guy Fredericks, Victoria Atkinson and Phillip Sidney created five unique artistic expressions of these Sustainable Development Goals. Their paintings completely transformed the usually plain, green boxes into vibrant pictures of a more sustainable future for Australia.



Victoria Atkinson and Thom Roberts with Craig Wilson, Ausgrid Sustainability Manager. Photo by William Liu.

Stadium Pop: Football Flowers

Granville Park Stadium
July 2021

Building on her previous public art achievements, Emily Crockford was selected by Cumberland City Council to design and paint a 10 metre long mural for the opening of their new Granville Park Community Sports Pavilion.

Crockford, with the help of her friend and fellow muralist Ruebszz, completed *Stadium Pop: Football Flowers* just prior to lockdown in 2021. The piece followed on from much of her previous works, with her focus on the Australian landscape and sustainable practices clearly on display as she captured the natural environment in extraordinary colour.

The Pavilion was named after Eric Tweedale, former Australian rugby union player, and its construction promoted sustainable building practices while providing the local area more recreational and communal spaces.



Patterns of the Loveheart Mandala

Medibank Accessibility and Inclusion Plan 2022-2024
June 2022

Emily Crockford was commissioned by Medibank in early 2022 to produce an original work for their second Accessibility and Inclusion Plan.

Her artwork *Patterns of the Loveheart Mandala*, displays bold, electric acrylic on canvas, with Emily's take on the mandala emphasising the cyclical, shared journey that connects us all as human beings.

The final artwork was housed in the Medibank corporate offices in Melbourne, with a digital version featuring on the cover and throughout the design of the Accessibility and Inclusion Plan. The partnership highlighted Medibank's and Crockford's devotion to creating inclusive and accessible opportunities.



Harmony Day

North Sydney Council
March 2022

Harmony Week is an annual celebration that promotes cultural respect and inclusivity for everyone who calls Australia home. For Harmony Week 2022, North Sydney Council tasked Jaycee Kim with creating an original artwork to celebrate the diverse, multicultural communities within the Council area.

In his painting, Kim presented the optimistic and colourful ideals of diversity in Studio A and North Sydney, with Luna Park surrounded by vivid orange hues and the diverse individuals and cultures within Australia and North Sydney.

The artwork was unveiled and presented to the Mayor of North Sydney, Zoe Baker, along with North Sydney Councillors, Studio A board members and the community representatives who took part in a workshop that informed the piece.

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital

Artwork by Emily Crockford and Phil Sidney

Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital, together with Health Infrastructure NSW and Northern Sydney Local Health District invited Studio A to create a collection of public artworks to enhance the interior design and overall experience for patients, staff and community within the newly established Clinical Services Building's Emergency Department.

Tasked with a brief focused on themes of renewal, restoration, regrowth and the inspiring natural surrounds of the Hornsby Ku-ring-gai Hospital, Emily Crockford and Phil Sidney designed a series of paintings that reflected the beauty of the region's flora and fauna. The artworks took the form of wall decals, strategically placed throughout the new Emergency Department, bringing the vibrancy and beauty of the outside environment into the heart of the hospital.

"My painting is inspired by Hornsby Shire's nature and animals. It is a beautiful sunset in the bushland with lots of animals. Koalas, kangaroos, flying foxes, rainbow lorikeets, possums and the powerful owl which is my favourite."

Phil Sidney



Jaycee Kim presenting his commission to North Sydney Mayor, Zoe Baker at Studio A. March 2022. Photo by William Liu.

More Commissions...



Sydney Opera House Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging Strategy 2021-2023
The Phantom Opera House by Emily Crockford

Emily Crockford's artwork was chosen for the cover of Sydney Opera House's new Diversity, Inclusion & Belonging Strategy, sitting alongside the work of artists Sally M. Nangala Mulda and Jason Phu.



Romance Was Born
Handwoven textiles by Adam Mandarano

Adam Mandarano hand loomed up to 10 metres of textiles for Australian fashion house Romance Was Born which were tailored into unique pieces for their Resort 2023 collection created in collaboration with Ken Done.



Soylent Green Album Cover
Artwork by Peter Dudding

Peter Dudding was commissioned to create the album artwork for the self-titled album of Adelaide contemporary Jazz collective, Soylent Green.



LawHack 2021 LawHack 2021
Artwork by Victoria Atkinson, Meagan Pelham and Thom Roberts.

The three Studio A artists were commissioned to create artwork for the main document and design collateral of the LawHack 2021 digital conference.



Hireup Annual Report 2020/21
Illustrated by Jaycee Kim

Over 50 staff and clients of Hireup were digitally illustrated by Jaycee Kim for use throughout the disability support provider's annual report.

Partnerships



Guy Fredericks, *Blueberry bush blossoms*, 2021, digital illustration.

Studio A Policies Animated

Greg Sindel and The University of Technology

Partnerships are at the heart of Studio A's mission as a means of promoting cultural inclusivity and accessibility. In our ongoing commitment to improving the accessibility of our policies, we embarked on a groundbreaking collaboration that brought together the expertise of Studio A's Greg Sindel, and the creative talent of students from the University of Technology Sydney (UTS).

Recognizing the inherent challenges of traditional policy documents, which often feel distant and unengaging, we sought a transformative approach. Greg Sindel, known for his ability to convey complex ideas through captivating visual narratives, was commissioned to translate Studio A's policies into an imaginative medieval adventure. With his finely honed creative talents, Greg embarked on illustrating our policies, breathing life into what was once a colourless, text-based document.

To further enhance the accessibility and engagement of the policies, we partnered with Animation and Design students from UTS to animate the illustrations. Under Greg's expert guidance, the students utilised their skills to bring the colourful world of Studio A's policies to life. This collaboration not only enriched the students' academic curriculum but also empowered them to contribute meaningfully to our mission.

The result of this remarkable partnership is a vibrant and captivating reference point that transcends the limitations of traditional policy documents as well as traditional pedagogical conventions. The illustrated and animated policies are now accessible to all, enabling our artists, staff, volunteers, and community to understand their rights and responsibilities with ease.

"Once Greg did his talk, they were all fans. He changed their value system about the way they viewed art, expression and their own practice. It also made them view intellectual disability in a completely different way."

Deborah Szapiro, UTS Media Arts & Production Lecturer, on Greg Sindel's impact on her students.



Meagan Pelham x Romance Was Born

Just in time for Valentine's Day, February 2022 saw the release of Meagan Pelham's third partnership with the Australian fashion label Romance Was Born. A "Lover of Love", Romance Was Born again displayed Pelham's romantic, dreamy styles for the new capsule collection. Her charm-filled, glamorous designs fit perfectly with Romance Was Born founders and designers Anna Plunkett and Luke Sale's passion for love and storytelling. The selection included full-length dresses, frilled bags and multicoloured t-shirts filled with beautiful designs, textiles, proclamations of love and poetic extracts.

Meagan said of the collection, "I am an artist and poet and I work with Anna (and Luke) from Romance was Born. I designed clothes with love poetry writing and my Beauty and the Beast rose flowers. I love writing about romance and love... Love is LOVE! People find LOVE!"

Alongside the new collection, Motel Picture Company worked with Romance Was Born to film a whimsical collaborative short interview/love story with Meagan at its centre. A Romance Story with Meagan Pelham featured Meagan dressed in a piece from her collection, waltzing with her sweetheart, as she speaks on what love means to her.

"Perhaps the label's most fitting collaboration to date is their collection designed with studio A artist Meagan Pelham. A fellow "lover of love", Pelham's ultra-romantic art and sentimental musings on love are the perfect fit for Romance Was Born's similarly emotional and exaggerated designs."

Dani Maher, Harper's Bazaar



Left: Meagan Pelham x Romance Was Born campaign image. Model Elle Ngo with hair & makeup by Gavin Anesbury. Photo by Tanja Bruckner. Right: Artwork by Meagan Pelham.

Incognito Art Show 2022

The Incognito Art Show, one of Australia's largest and most inclusive art shows, united over 1,400 artists to support Studio A through donations of artwork. In 2022, over 3,500 A5 postcard-sized artworks were available to purchase for just \$100, regardless of artist.

Inclusivity was a key directive for the art show. Artists' identities were revealed to buyers only when they purchased the artwork. This practice promoted a real connection between the consumer and the artist. It allowed smaller artists the same opportunities as well-known, named artists.

The funds raised by Incognito allowed Studio A to engage emerging and established artists through our guest artist program, paving more professional pathways and connecting and supporting diverse Australian artists.

The opening supporter evening for the Art Show provided an opportunity to premiere and celebrate 'Inside Studio A'. The documentary-style short film was a unique peek into the magical world of Studio A, highlighting five Studio A artists: Mathew Calandra, Thom Roberts, Catherine McGuinness, Jaycee Kim and Meagan Pelham and Studio A's founder Gabrielle Mordy.

Art to Roam

Studio A for the International Fund for Animal Welfare

In October 2021, Studio A joined forces with the global not-for-profit International Fund for Animal Welfare (IFAW), Australian auction house Leonard Joel, and supported studios across the globe for the international online auction event - Art To Roam.

In the first event of its kind, artists from supported studios in Sydney, Melbourne, Perth, London, Washington D.C., Seoul, Calgary, Glasgow and Chicago worked together to produce the worldwide auction to benefit both the artists and also Africa's wild animals and the places they call home. Amidst the challenges brought on by the pandemic in 2020, the online auction allowed artists and studios to continue to work and grow throughout the pandemic.

The hugely successful initiative featured five Studio A artists: Annette Galstaun, Daniel Kim, Thom Roberts, Catherine McGuinness and Emily Crockford, and 8 of their artworks. The auction raised a total of \$53,200. The auction then split the sum between IFAW's Room to Roam conservation project in Africa and the artists from the studios who generously donated their works for the event.

The Room to Roam project aims to create a connected conservation network that protects elephants and other wildlife as they travel between their natural habitats and the human communities that have grown to surround them.

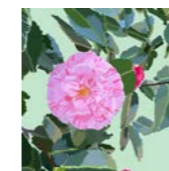


More Partnerships...



Nadia Lolos Fundraiser

A beautiful range of design products featuring artwork by the late Studio A artist Nadia Lolos were created in collaboration with Nadia's sister Katie Lolos to honour Nadia and to raise funds for Studio A and Studio ARTES. The fundraiser brought valuable attention to the two arts organisations and successfully raised \$9,000.



Liberty Specialty Markets floral digital artworks

Keeping staff and artists connected during remote working Liberty Specialty Markets commissioned Studio A artists to create a series of digital artworks based on photographs captured by LSM staff of flora near their homes.



Catherine McGuinness for Iconic Beauty

Catherine McGuinness was one of the faces of the #IAMICONIC social media beauty campaign of fashion and beauty online retailer THE ICONIC.

Top: Incognito Art Show supporters night, June 2022. Photo by Studio A. Left: Artwork by Thom Roberts in the Art to Roam catalogue.

Public Engagement

Skye Saxon and Kristel Saxon as the 1000-year-old wizard and son, April 2022. Photo by Christopher Haysom.



Affordable Art Fair, Randwick + Flow and Glow Artist Market, Wynyard

The revival of in-person market events in 2022 was wholeheartedly welcomed, renewing opportunities for artists to engage and connect with their audiences. For buyers it offered the thrill of exploring and discovering new art and talent.

Catherine McGuinness worked in collaboration with Studio A guest artist Shan Turner-Carroll to create an avant-garde princess costume, which debuted at the Flow and Glow Artist Market on the 26th and 27th of May 2022.

Shan Turner Carroll's practice merges elements of performance and sculpture, often using miscellaneous materials to craft experimental garments to be photographed. The two artists attended the event in costume as a regal 'Princess and Prince Charming' duo, presenting a beautiful arrangement of McGuinness' artwork available for purchase.

The art market was curated by Consuelo Cavaniglia and Abigail Moncrieff as a part of Flow and Glow, a two-day program of panel conversations, music and art in Wynyard Lane, Sydney city.

We were also delighted to exhibit at the Affordable Art Fair Sydney as the official charity partner. As an international event we were thrilled to be part of the fair's Sydney debut, which ran 2 - 5 June at Royal Randwick Racecourse.

Studio A presented a strong female front with works by Catherine McGuinness, Emily Crockford, Meagan Pelham and Katrina Brennan amongst others. The event welcomed 34 emerging and established galleries, exhibiting a vast collection of original Australian contemporary artworks available for purchase. The fair proved to be a resounding success with numerous sales and positive outcomes.



Art buyers with Catherine McGuinness at the opening night of the Affordable Art Fair, June 2022. Photo by Studio A.

Pink and Green Mango, The Langston, Epping

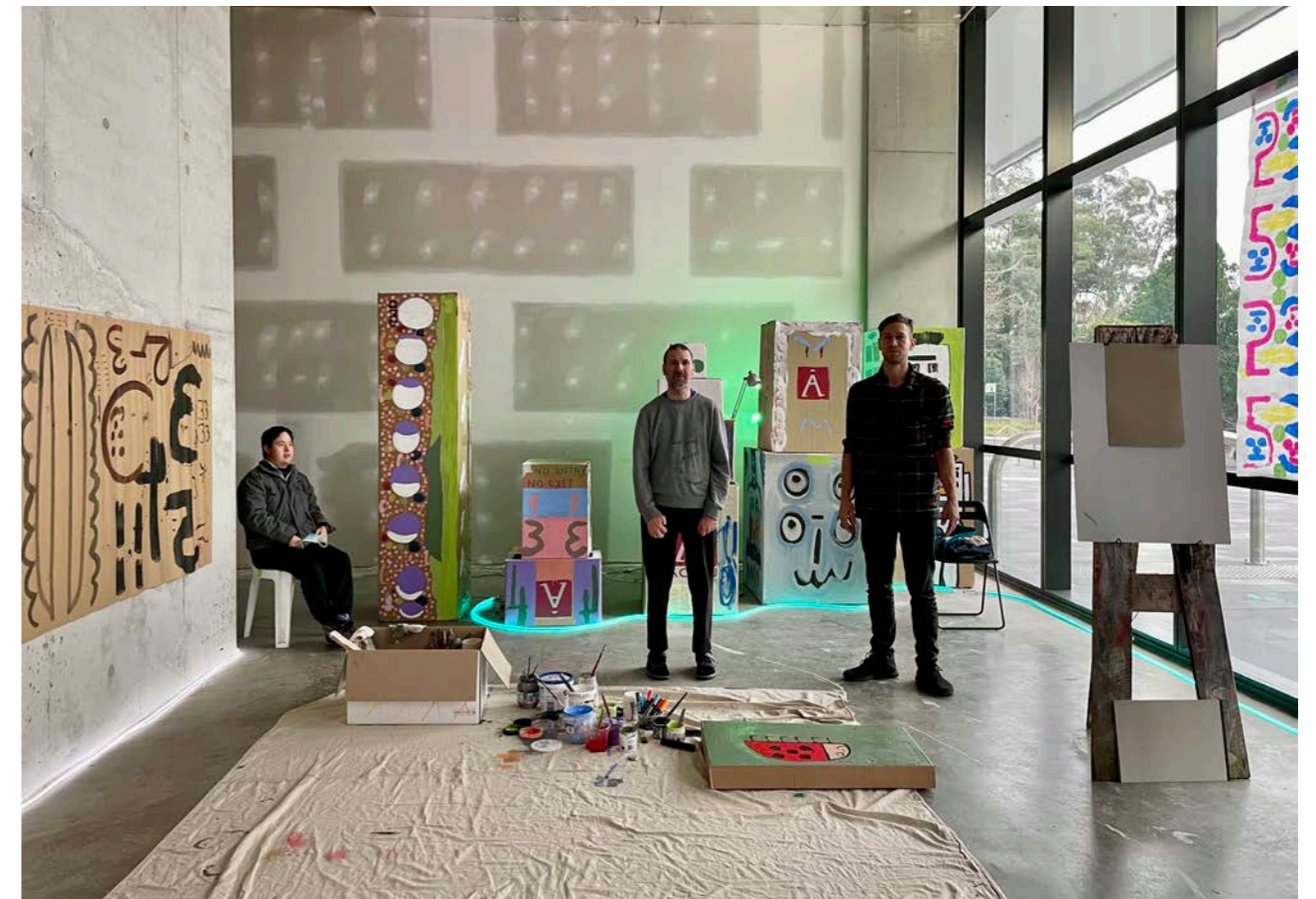
Thom Roberts artist residency

On the ground level of The Langston residential tower, *Pink and Green Mango* emerged as a pop-up project space occupied by Thom Roberts with support from Studio A guest artist Simon Wheeldon. Throughout the month of June Thom filled the space with light and colour by creating artworks that share his unique creative vision with the Epping community.

During his time as artist-in-residence Thom played with found materials, creating bold paintings inspired by the locals. Thom connected with numerous residents, inviting them to sit for portrait drawings, fostering community involvement in the development of his work.

As an aficionado of very tall buildings, Thom was very happy to meet with the building's Principal Architect, Farhad Haidari, whom he affectionately dubbed Bert. *Pink and Green Mango* was proudly hosted by The Langston, Epping and supported by Cbus Property along with Reactive Consulting.

PINK AND GREEN MANGO



Damian Showyin, Thom Roberts and Simon Wheeldon at The Langston, Epping, June 2022. Photo by Studio A.

1000 Year Old Magical Travellers, Museum of Contemporary Art

Skye Saxon and Kristel Saxon

In *1000 Year Old Magical Travellers* Skye Saxon performed interactive energy readings direct from her magical universe featuring a 1000-year-old wizard and an umbrella. Supported by her twin sister Kristel, playing the role of her son, Skye invited audience members to help shape an energy drawing in the air surrounding them. Cast by her umbrella the drawings brought protection to the recipients.

The performance was part of a series of events at the Museum of Contemporary Art for MCA Late, activating the museum late into the evening with special exhibition tours, workshops and a DJ set on the rooftop terrace, with an overall focus on accessibility, and artists who work within the disability community.

“Having never been there before, Sydney is a pretty magical place. After getting to know the people there, they are pretty magical themselves. I was happy to share my way of life with them.”

Skye Saxon as the 1000-year-old Wizard reflecting on the performance.



Skye Saxon and Kristel Saxon at the MCA. April 2022. Photo by Studio A.

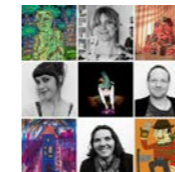
More Public Engagement...



Arts Activated Conference 2021

Highlighting Diversity: The Impact of Representation on a National Platform

Meagan Pelham and Gabrielle Mordy presented as panellists alongside Isobel Parker Philip, Senior Curator at The Art Gallery of New South Wales, in a discussion focused on the importance of diversity in the arts.



Accessible Arts

In Conversation with Studio A: Collectives, Creativity & Collaboration

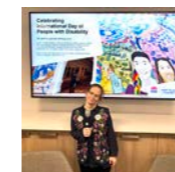
Skye Saxon and Greg Sindel, along with Gabrielle Mordy and Emma Johnston presented a discussion on how Studio A was established and the role it plays in the creative and professional development of its artists.



Mosman Library

Story time with Meagan Pelham

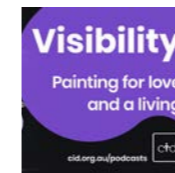
To mark International Day of People with Disability Meagan Pelham was invited by Mosman Library to perform readings of her short stories via Zoom, before leading a colourful craft activity.



International Day of People with Disability, NSW Guardian and Trustee

A talk by Meagan Pelham and Gabrielle Mordy

In the lead up to International Day of People with Disability Meagan Pelham and Gabrielle Mordy were invited to speak at a live event at the offices of the NSW Guardian and Trustee celebrating the lives and achievements of people with disability.



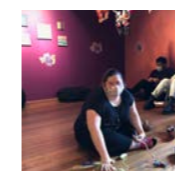
Visibility

Painting for love and a living
cid.org.au/podcasts ctd

Visibility podcast, Council of Intellectual Disability

Interview with Lauren Kerjan

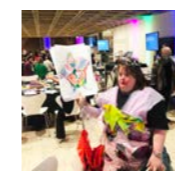
Lauren Kerjan spoke with the Council for Intellectual Disability about life as a professional artist, her inspirations and creative process for their podcast, Visibility, a platform for people with intellectual disability to share their stories.



Unicorn Butterfly Magical Creature Workshop, Cement Fondu

Katrina Brennan and Paula do Prado

Katrina Brennan and Paula do Prado facilitated a free workshop with participants of all ages creating magical creatures from repurposed textiles, yarn and found objects. The pieces were inspired by work from their *Unicorn Butterfly* installation at Magical Putt Putt, Cement Fondu.



Art After Hours Portraiture workshop, Art Gallery of New South Wales

Catherine McGuinness, Meagan Pelham and Thom Roberts

Three Studio A Archibald finalists presented a playful drop-in workshop at the Art Gallery of New South Wales during their Art After Hours event, allowing participants to explore different ways of making a portrait.



Arts Up Late, Granville Centre

Jaycee Kim

Jaycee Kim challenged visitors to a game of chess on a board entirely of his making and fashioned in his likeness, as well as leading a creative workshop for Arts Up Late, a night time activation of the Granville Centre.



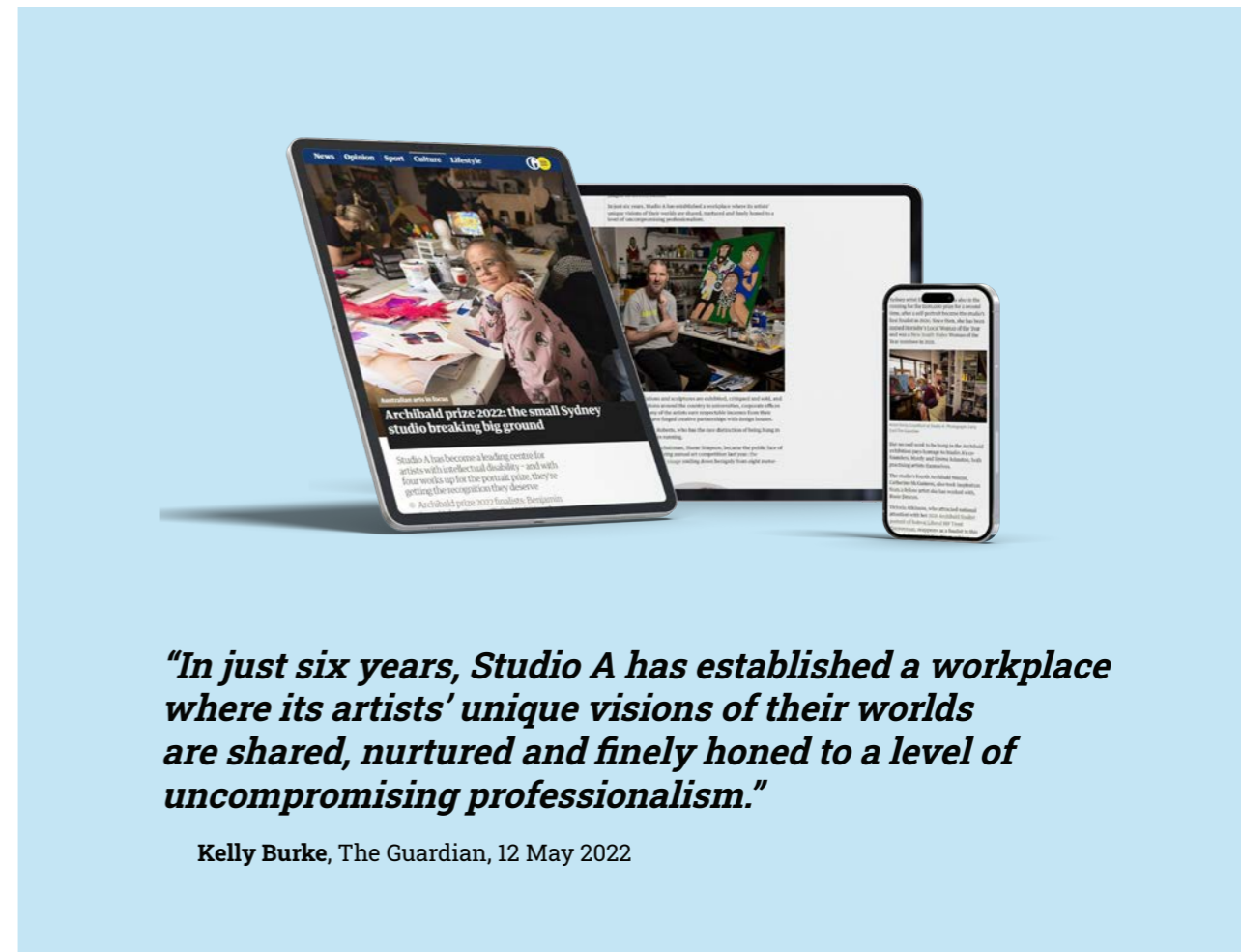
In FY21/22 Studio A and our artists received recognition across a variety of media outlets with twenty-four inclusions and features. The Guardian story *Archibald Prize 2022: the small Sydney studio breaking ground* by arts writer Kelly Burke provided a significant piece of coverage for the studio. The article reported the success of our Archibald Prize finalists Emily Crockford, Catherine McGuinness, Meagan Pelham and Thom Roberts to a readership of over 6.4 million, almost one third of all Australians.

The studio was also recognised across a number of arts journals and digital arts platforms with arts industry website Arts Hub publishing *Arts and disability: the impact of representation on a national platform*. The piece delved into the significance and impact of the studio's 2020 mural commission *Love owls and mermaids singing in the rainbow pop* at the Art Gallery of New South Wales. The story included insightful interviews with Studio A CEO/Artistic Director Gabrielle Mordy and members of the AGNSW team.

Emily Crockford was also interviewed by the National Association of Visual Arts (NAVA) to be featured on their long running Artist Files series, a platform that has showcased some of Australia's most esteemed contemporary artists since 2014.

Additionally our artists were the subjects of articles in fashion magazines Harper's Bazaar and RUSSH and the journal of online fashion retailer The Iconic. These features underscore the studio's extensive reach and its ability to engage a diverse and broad audience.

Studio A's media attention garnered throughout the 2021/22 period, made significant contributions in spotlighting artists with intellectual disability. The publicity recognises the talent of our artists as prominent and valued members of the Australian arts community and showcases Studio A as a leading supported studio.



"In just six years, Studio A has established a workplace where its artists' unique visions of their worlds are shared, nurtured and finely honed to a level of uncompromising professionalism."

Kelly Burke, The Guardian, 12 May 2022

"The Studio has worked towards cultivating a space of inclusion, one that reduces stigma surrounding disability and neurodiversity, and is committed to increasing visibility."

Madeline Kenzie, RUSSH, 6 January 2022



"The AGNSW recently acquired a work by Mathew Calandra, and (Maud) Page (Deputy Director of the Art Gallery of NSW) is keen for another collaboration with Studio A. 'Their work just keeps going from strength to strength,' Page says. 'I just find a lot of joy in what they do.'"

Elizabeth Fortescue, Mosman Daily, 21 April 2022



"There is a misconception that the art produced by artists with intellectual disability will not be very high quality. Studio A is driven to change this stereotype by ensuring the broadest possible audience gets to experience our artists' work."

Once people experience the artwork, the quality of the artwork itself transforms perceptions."

Giselle Buetti, Arts Hub, 16 August 2021

Development

Meagan Pelham by Cybele Malinowski.





Jaycee Kim by Cybele Malinowski.

Inside Studio A

Part documentary, part colourful editorial, 'Inside Studio A' is a unique peek into the magical world of Studio A. Getting to the heart of how art and Studio A defines the artists' worlds, and in turn how they reimagine and impact the world around them.

In 2020 creative producer Amelia Bowe reached out, as a fan of Studio A, to generously offer her time as a volunteer. Studio A was in need of an 'about' video with a difference and Amelia had the skills to make it happen. With that, 'Inside Studio A' was born.

Over the course of two days in late 2021 Amelia and her team, led by Director Cybele Malinowski, sat down with five Studio A artists, Mathew Calandra, Thom Roberts, Catherine McGuinness, Jaycee Kim and Meagan Pelham, along with Studio A's co-founder Gabrielle Mordy. The team listened to our artists' stories and captured them on film to champion their voices and abilities.

The beautiful video is the result of the hard work and talent lent to Studio A by an exceptional pro-bono team of creatives. It captures the essence of Studio A, our artists, their joyful energy and their talent and became the centrepiece of our EOFY22 donations campaign.

Meet the uber-talented crew behind 'inside studio A':

Artists: Meagan Pelham, Jaycee Kim, Thom Roberts, Mathew Calandra, Catherine McGuinness

Studio A CEO/Artistic Director: Gabrielle Mordy

Stylist: Mon Moynihan

Presented by: Agender

Fashion supplied by: The Iconic, Romance Was Born, Gorman

Creative Director and Producer: Amelia Bowe

Hair & Makeup Artist: Yen Hoang

Director and Photographer: Cybele Malinowski

Hair & Makeup Assistant: Max Serrano

Director of Photography: Selina Miles

Sound Technician: Dan Clarke

B-Cam, Photographer & Studio Manager: Scott Heldorf

Editor: Lucas Conway

Photography Assistant: Hannah Meldrum

Colour Grade: Peachy Keen Colour

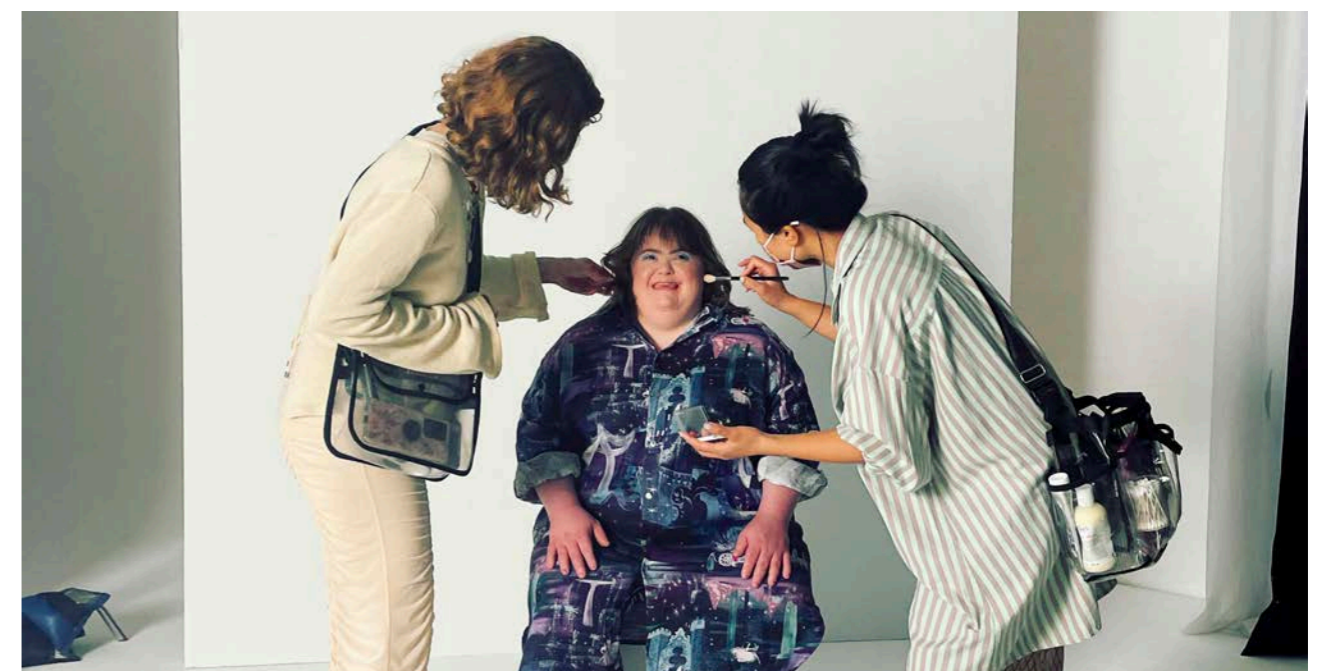
Cinematography & Photography Assistant at Bus Stop Films: Ronan Soussa

Sound Mix & Music: Oly Sherman

Production & Lighting Assistant at Bus Stop Films: Shay Bell

Studio: Studio Mondo

Retouching: Justin Malinowski



Catherine McGuinness on set of Inside Studio A. Photo by Studio A.

Australia Council Digital Strategist-in-Residence Program

Thom Roberts by Cybele Malinowski.

Selected by the Australia Council for their inaugural Digital Strategist-in-Residence Program, Studio A was one of several arts organisations to join the program and team up with a digital specialist.

Paired with Elyse Maberely and Sam Hemphill, the exceptional team behind Meeum, we worked over many months to audit our digital capacity, identify gaps, ideate and explore opportunities to expand our digital activity. Ultimately developing a robust digital strategy for Studio A that better supports our artists and our mission.

Constituents from right across the company were involved in the process, from the artists to Board members. With this holistic approach Meeum helped Studio A to establish six priority areas with the top of the list - a new fit for purpose e-commerce solution.

“Bringing everyone together to overlook all aspects of the organisation through a digital lens was eye-opening for the team. It reinforced and clarified with everyone that we are running a digital business.”

Christopher Haysom, Digital Solutions Manager, Studio A



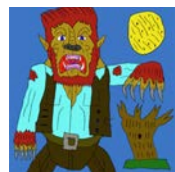
Digital illustration by Greg Sindel.

More Development...



Local Icons Product Range

Featuring Aussie icons from the koala to the Opera House illustrated by Studio A artists Emily Crockford and Damian Showyin, the range included cotton tote bags and 100% linen tea towels as well as a set of quality gift cards showcasing artwork from 6 Studio A artists.



Halloween Portraits by Greg Sindel

With trick-or-treating and dress up parties restricted due to the pandemic Greg Sindel offered audiences the opportunity to be transformed into their Halloween persona as a unique digital illustration.



Studio A ONLINE portal

Videos, interactive art, exhibitions, workshops and more were compiled into a new Studio A ONLINE webpage. During lockdowns and social restrictions the portal gave audiences access to different ways to engage with Studio A artists and their art from the convenience and safety of their homes.



studio A

Governance and Financial Report



Damian Showyin, Orange and Blue Patterns, 2022, acrylic on handwoven textiles.

Governance



Shane Simpson AM, Chair

Shane is Special Counsel at Simpsons Solicitors, a firm specialising in the arts, entertainment, cultural property and copyright. He was the founder of the Arts Law Centre of Australia and Prelude (a national network of composer houses).

He is on the Council of the National Library of Australia and is the independent director on several private foundations.

He was formerly chair of the Bundanon Trust; the Advisory Council of the Faculty of Art + Design, UNSW; the Aboriginal Benefits Foundation; the Peggy Glanville-Hicks Composers' House Trust; the NSW Film and Television Office and Museums and Galleries NSW. He has also been a non-executive director on numerous boards in the cultural industries including: the Australian Maritime Museum; the New Zealand Film Commission; the Australian National Academy of Music; the National Association for the Visual Arts; the Crafts Council of Australia; the Music Council of Australia and the Copyright Agency.

He was appointed Member of the Order of Australia (AM) for "service to the law and to the arts through leading roles in intellectual property and entertainment law, and as a contributor to a range of cultural organisations." In 2019 the University of New South Wales awarded him an honorary Doctorate of the University.



Steve Badgery

Director of Community Engagement & Marketing – Providence Asset Group

Steve has breadth of experience across all functions of marketing, business planning and strategy as well as business development and project management. Steve has worked across various functions of marketing at Westpac and CBA as well as previous roles in Agricultural Investment Management with a focus on business planning, corporate advisory and asset management. Steve has recently changed industries and now works in the renewable energy space with a company investing, building and owning community solar farms in regional Australia.

Steve first became connected to Studio A as their mentor on the Social Traders "Crunch" program. Steve worked closely with the team to test and develop a business and marketing plan that would allow Studio A to compete in the corporate sector. Steve is passionate about building the profiles and forging sustainable career paths for the artists while also ensuring they gain professional development along the way.

Steve is a lover of the arts having studied art throughout secondary school with a particular interest in modern art and sculpture.



John McCabe

John McCabe is Senior Vice President and Chief Operating Officer of Liberty Specialty Markets Asia Pacific, based in Sydney.

Since joining Liberty International Underwriters in 1999 John has held several positions including Chief Financial Officer and LIU's Global Chief Risk Officer based in Boston.

John's current responsibilities include focusing on day-to-day management of nine regional offices in five countries. He is also responsible for LSM Asia Pacific enterprise risk management, capital, legal & taxation structure and evaluation of new business opportunities.

In addition to his role on the Studio A Board, John is currently an executive Director on four LSM company boards and has held the position of Independent Chair of the Audit & Risk Committee of Tennis NSW. John is a Chartered Accountant (ANZCA); Is a Fellow of ANZIIF and a Graduate Member of the AICD.



Douglas Spencer OAM

Doug is the Principal and Director of Miller Noyce Lawyers and sits on the Board of Studio ARTES, where he was Chair 2009 to 2019.

Doug joined Miller Noyce & Doust in November 1973 and became a partner in 1976. Since that time he has handled matters in most areas of law with a particular focus on business, commercial, property, deceased estates and estate planning matters. Doug was in the first group of solicitors in this State to be accepted (in 1993) as an Accredited Specialist in Business Law and has been re-accredited every year since.

Over the years, Doug has handled a wide range of legal matters for many people in many circumstances. He has extensive experience in acting for "people" in most areas of the law, whether it is in relation to their personal lives or in respect to their business and commercial affairs. This extends from assisting people in buying and selling their homes and preparing Wills, Powers of Attorney and handling estates for them to advising and assisting on the sale, purchase and restructure of businesses and in acting for them in difficult commercial litigation in all jurisdictions. Doug also has extensive experience in advising people on estate planning and the restructuring of their business and commercial affairs.



Kim Spinks

Kim Spinks is Director of City People, a new company devoted to culture-led placemaking.

She was previously at Arts (now Create) NSW for twenty years where she worked in a variety of positions including Manager Arts Strategy and Planning, Director Arts Development and Director Strategy & Capacity and for nine years managed the state funding for theatre and dance. In her last position as Manager Strategic Initiatives she led the team responsible for strategic programs such as the Aboriginal Arts and Cultural Strategy, the Arts and Disability Partnership with FACS, the NSW Health and Arts Framework and Western Sydney. Her responsibilities included policy development and implementation and fund raising.

Prior to working at Arts NSW Kim spent twenty years in the performing arts in many different professional capacities including co-founding Urban Theatre Projects.



Barbara Ward

Barbara Ward is the founder and Managing Director of Impact One an international strategy, capital raising and advisory company, holding vast experience in these areas, with particular knowledge in healthcare. Barbara has been awarded several awards for her outstanding contributions to corporate, not-for-profit and charity sectors. She was also awarded NSW Government Local Woman of the Year 2017, Paul Harris Fellow and NSW Volunteer of the Year 2019.

Barbara is the President of Rotary Club of Sydney, Immediate past President of Australia India Business Council NSW, fellow and former President of Fundraising Institute of Australia. She sits on a number of corporate and charity Boards and is the President of four.



Dan Wright

Commercial Finance Manager - Seven West Media

Dan is an experienced Chartered Accountant currently supporting the News and Public Affairs division at Seven. Dan has also worked across media and retail sectors in Sydney and London. Dan gained his CA with Deloitte in Auckland in 2013 and is a University of Auckland graduate.

Financial Performance

FY2022

\$

Income

Fundraising	114,854
Grants	294,968
Artist Fees	6,366
Artwork/ Merchandise Sales	268,940
COVID Funding	30,105
Other income	112,148
Total Revenue	827,381

Expenditure

Administration	8,859
Artistic	730,978
Studio	89,998
Total Expenses	829,835
Deficit for the year*	-2,454

*The deficit is a result of a delay in the receipt of an expected major donation.

Income

Where our funding came from in FY22

Fundraising

Donations made up 14% of our FY22 income and we are incredibly grateful to all our donors for their generous contributions. Donations are critical to the success of our artists.

Grants

Create NSW is the main contributor of grants for Studio A. We are the recipient of multi-year program funding from Create NSW of \$110,000 per annum.

We are also the recipient of a three year grant of \$100,000 per annum from the Vincent Fairfax Family Foundation providing multi core operational and capacity building support for Studio A.

Artwork / Merchandise Fees

Income from the sale of artwork has continued to grow in FY22, reflecting the professional development of Studio A artists. Continued growth in artist fees is key to the success of Studio A as a social enterprise.

Artwork / Merchandise Sales

Artwork and Merchandise sales made up 33% of our overall income in FY22. Even with limited face-to-face sales opportunities due to COVID-19, this demonstrates the value placed on Studio A creations in the community and the demand for the work of our artists.

COVID Funding

COVID funding largely consists of Federal Government COVID-19 support in the form of JobKeeper.

Other

Studio ARTES is a certified NDIS Service Provider and manages the NDIS funding requirements of Studio A's artists. Other income includes artist funding, one on one funding and community access income received from the NDIS on behalf of artists.

Catherine McGuinness and Shan Turner-Carroll at Flow & Glow Artist Market, Wynyard, May 2022. Photo by Ashley Marr.



Expenditure

How our funding was used in FY22

Administration

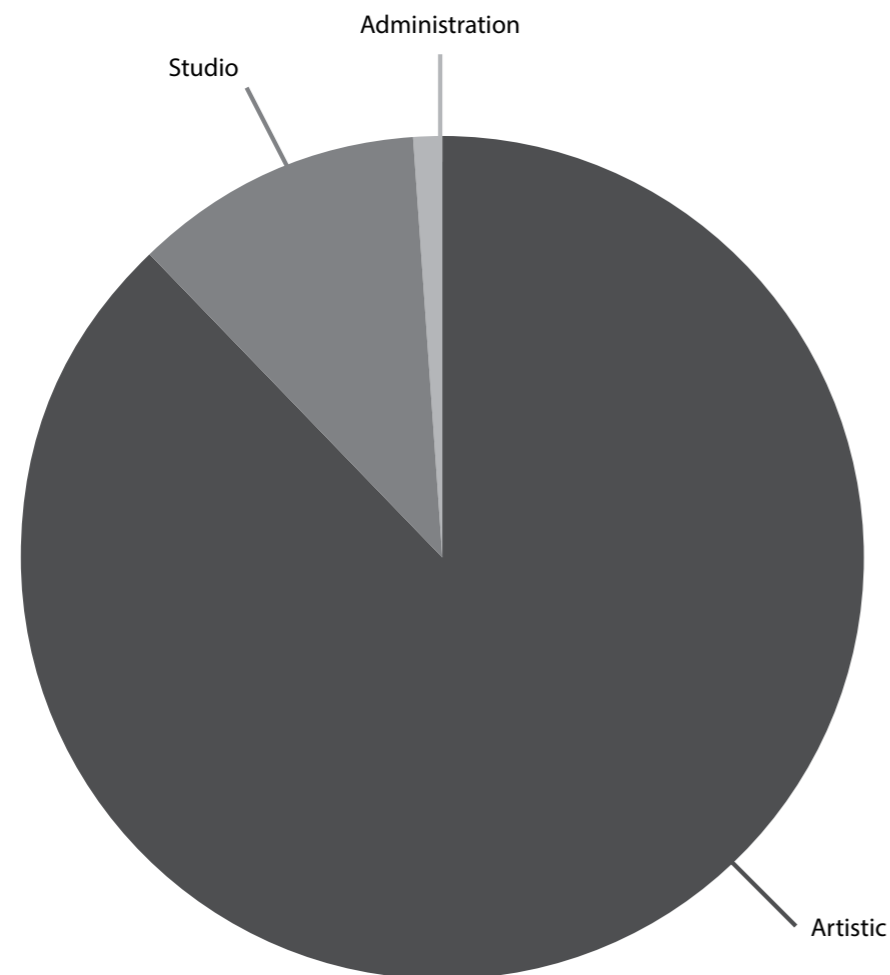
Administration costs are kept to a minimum at Studio A and account for just 1% of our overall expenditure. This includes travel/fuel costs, accounting, audit fees and insurances.

Artistic

Artistic expenses are at the core of what we do and make up the bulk of Studio A expenditure. This includes payments to our artists, art consumables, framing/printing, artistic staff salaries and guest artist costs.

Studio

This is the cost of 'keeping the lights on' at our Crows Nest studio and includes rent, cleaning, IT support and depreciation.



Daniel Kim, *Still Life*, 2022, acrylic on canvas.

studioA

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2 Ernest Place, Crows Nest NSW 2065
Australia

Report Designed by William Liu

